FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Sub-Saharan Africa

Vol VIII No 46 *8 March 1978*

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Demonstration in Harar Celebrates Recapture of Jijiga	B 1	1/A5
Spokesman Says No Peace Till All Somali Troops Out	B 1	1/A5
PLO Plans To Open Office in Addis Ababa	B 1	1/A5
Sierra Leone Foreign Minister Comments on Visit	B 2	1/A6
Eritrean Factions Discuss Unity Principles in Khartoum	B 3	1/A7

KENYA

Somali Protests Over U.S. Military Aid to Kenya Reported	B 3	1/A7

TANZANIA

Indonesia Threatens Clove Import Ban From Tanzania	B 3	1/A7
DPRK Vice President Pak Song-Chol Visits Zanzibar	B 4	1/A8

SOMALIA

DANAB Reports Heavy Fighting Around Jijiga	B 4	1/A8
62 Cuban Soldiers Reported Captured by Somalia in Jijiga [Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD]	B 4	1/A8
More Conflicting Reports on Status of Jijiga	B 4	1/A8
Embassy Claims Attack Repelled	B 4	1/A8
Spokesman Admits Retreat	B 5	1/A9
Mogadiscio Says USSR, U.S. Promote Ethiopian Colonialism	B 5	1/A9
Siad Barre Pledges Continued Aid for WSLF	B 7	1/A11
Hussein Culmie Afrah Comments on Soviet Threat to Red Sea	B 7	1/A11
Demonstrators Ask To Be Sent to Battlefield	B 8	1/A12

UGANDA

Amin Releases Nine Recently Detained Kenyans	B 8	1/A12

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAMEROON

Ivory Coast's Houphouet-Boigny Ends Official Visit	C 1	1/A13

CHAD

Algerian Envoy Confers With Malloum To Discuss Cooperation [Algiers EL MOUDJAHID 24-25 Feb]	C 1	1/A13

CONGO

Army Political Chief Returns From Visit to Libya	C 2	1/A14

ZAIRE

Mobutu Says Detainees Planned Terrorism, Not Coup C 2 1/A14

WEST AFRICA

MALI

More Arrests Made on 'Conspiracy' Charges D 1 1/B1

NIGERIA

Lagos Comments on Visit by French Foreign Minister D 1 1/B1

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

CTK Reports Communique Issued on WFTU Visit [illegible] 1 1/B3

BOTSWANA

Defense Chief Denies Training Rhodesian Guerrillas E 1 1/B3
[Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER 1 Mar]

RHODESIA

High Command Confirms Its Troops Have Invaded Zambia E 3 1/B5
Communique Issued on Attack on Zambian Base E 3 1/B5
Salisbury Criticizes Owen's Position on Russians, Cubans E 3 1/B5
Foreign Ministry Expects Opposition From Third World E 4 1/B6
Salisbury Reports Kaunda, Nyerere Split Over Settlement E 4 1/B6

SOUTH AFRICA

12 Die, 100 Injured in Windhoek Riots E 4 1/B6
Steyn Warns Against Violence E 5 1/B7

ZAMBIA

Zambian Units Down Six Rhodesian Air Force Aircraft E 6 1/B8
Prime Minister Scores Rhodesian Attack, Internal Agreement E 6 1/B8

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ETHIOPIA

DEMONSTRATION IN HARAR CELEBRATES RECAPTURE OF JIJIGA

NC071303Y Paris AFP in English 1258 GMT 7 Mar 78 NC

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 7 (AFP)--More than 100,000 people streamed into the streets of eastern Harar city yesterday to rejoice at the recapture on Sunday of the strategic town of Jijiga in the Ogaden, it was reported here today. The Ethiopian news agency said the rally marked a spontaneous "demonstration of patriotic sentiment unequalled in recent memory."

It described as "crushing" the victories scored against invading Somali forces, listing besides Jijiga and the vital Gara Marda Pass, the towns of Kombolchia, Fedis, and Daros as among those recaptured by Ethiopian forces.

No public demonstrations have been staged here, in response perhaps to the call of the national war command that reoccupation of Jijiga was to be regarded as nothing exceptional but as part of the country's normal defensive effort to recapture lost territory.

But Ethiopian newspapers today carried photographs of the Ethiopian flag on the gates of Jijiga, street scenes, parts of the Gara Marda Pass and convoys of tanks presumably engaged in the reconquest of the key town, which sits astride the approaches to the Somali border and the southern highlands. It was recaptured after nearly seven months of occupation by Somali forces.

SPOKESMAN SAYS NO PEACE TILL ALL SOMALI TROOPS OUT

AU071716Y Rome ANSA in English 1545 GMT 7 Mar 78 AU

[Text] Rome, March 7 (ANSA)--A spokesman for the Ethiopian Embassy warned here today that no negotiations would be possible between Somalia and Ethiopia as long as there was a single Somali soldier on Ethiopian soil. The spokesman issued the warning as he reported that the Ethiopian forces were rapidly pushing the Somali soldiers out of the disputed territory of Ogaden.

According to the spokesman, after winning back the city of Jijiga on Sunday, the Ethiopians were now pushing towards the frontier with Somalia. "The enemy troops are being forced to pull back and flee," he asserted. "The course of events has now radically changed in Ethiopia's favor so the Somali have no other choice but to withdraw from Ethiopian territory."

The spokesman avoided specifying how many Cuban and Soviet troops were fighting alongside the Ethiopians in what could be the vital counteroffensive in the Ogaden war.

PLO PLANS TO OPEN OFFICE IN ADDIS ABABA

LD071904Y Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1730 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has disclosed that the Palestine Liberation Organization, PLO, is to open an office in Addis Ababa. The decision to open the office here followed a 5-day visit to Ethiopia by a high-level delegation of the PLO at the invitation of the Provisional Military Administrative Council.

A Foreign Ministry statement said that in the course of the visit the Palestinian delegation had cordial talks with high-level Ethiopian Government officials on matters of mutual interest. During the talks, the PLO delegation expressed its solidarity with the aspirations of the Ethiopian people as well as the principles of the Ethiopian revolution. The delegation also condemned in no uncertain terms the imperialist-orchestrated aggression against Ethiopia.

The statement noted that, for its part, the Ethiopian side reaffirmed its support for the aspirations of the Palestinian people and, as a concrete expression of that sympathy, has, among other things, invited the PLO to open an office in Addis Ababa which will take care of Palestinian affairs.

SIERRA LEONE FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON VISIT

LD041532Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1030 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] Sierra Leone Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Abdulai Conteh left Addis Ababa for home today after delivering a special message from Dr Siaka Stevens, president of Sierra Leone, to Comrade Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam.

In a statement he made at the airport, Dr Conteh said that he delivered the message to Comrade Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu yesterday and added that his mission has yielded fruitful results.

The foreign minister went on to say that the message chiefly concerned the achievements of Sierra Leone and the OAU Ad Hoc Committee regarding the Ethiopian-Sudanese dispute. Sierra Leone chairs the Ad Hoc Committee.

The minister expressed pleasure at Ethiopia's desire to resume the meeting of the Council of Ministers Ad Hoc Committee on the Ethiopian-Sudanese dispute and said that the explained to Chairman Mengistu Sudan's desire to resume this meeting.

Dr Conteh went on to say that he will fix the date of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee in consultation with member-countries of the committee and the two other countries involved.

He pointed out that he was pleased with the fruitful results of his mission.

Replying, Maj Dawit Wolde Giorgis, permanent secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said that although a concrete result was achieved in the resumption of air links between Ethiopia and Sudan in accordance with the agreement reached in Freetown, fraternal peoples of the two countries must try harder to strengthen their long-standing brotherly relations on the basis of mutual understanding.

Sierra Leone's foreign minister was seen off at Bole International Airport by Maj Dawit Wolde Giorgis, permanent secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ethiopia's ambassador to Sudan, Ato Yilma Tadesse; and the Gabonese and Sierra Leone an ambassadors to Ethiopia.

ERITREAN FACTIONS DISCUSS UNITY PRINCIPLES IN KHARTOUM

JN0614212Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1355 GMT 6 Mar 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 6 March--Two delegations representing the Eritrean Liberation Front--and the Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] met here today. The council's delegation was led by Ibrahim Tutil, deputy chairman of the council's Executive Committee, and the EPLF delegation was led by Isaias Afework, deputy secretary general of the front.

During the meeting the conferees discussed the basic points pertaining to laying down the principles of unity in Eritrea in implementation of the agreement signed by the two fronts on 20 October 1977.

The two fronts had their first meeting in October 1977 during which they laid down the basis of the agreement pertaining to the formation of a joint political leadership in Eritrea.

KENYA

SOMALI PROTESTS OVER U.S. MILITARY AID TO KENYA REPORTED

LD051919Y Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] Somalia has strongly protested against the American decision to discuss a Kenyan request for military assistance to defend Kenya's territorial integrity.

The Somali ambassador to Paris, Mohamed Said Samantur, described the Kenyan request as a provocation which, he said, Somalia will not ignore. He said arrogantly that there is a limit to what Somalia can stand from Kenya. The Somali ambassador claimed that by supplying Kenya with military weapons the United States will not be respecting what he called the balance of forces in the region.

The Kenyan request for military assistance was made by the high-powered Kenyan delegation to the United States led by the vice president, Mr Moi. It expressed the need for such assistance as Somalia still nurses expansionist plans against Kenya.

TANZANIA

INDONESIA THREATENS CLOVE IMPORT BAN FROM TANZANIA

LD041602Y Dar es Salaam in English to East Africa 1000 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] Jakarta--Indonesia today told the Malagasy Republic and Tanzania that it would stop importing cloves from the two countries if they did not lower their prices. The Indonesian position was spelled out be Trade Minister Radius Prawiro at a meeting with his counterparts, Tanzania's Ndugu (Hamdan Muhumbiri) and Ndugu Justin Rarivoson from Madagascar. A trade spokesman did not disclose current clove prices charges by the two countries, but said they have increased by 62 percent during the past 7 years. Indonesia is the biggest importer of cloves from Madagascar and Tanzania.

DPRK VICE PRESIDENT PAK SONG-CHOL VISITS ZANZIBAR

LD0513182Y Zanzibar Domestic Service in Swahili 1500 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Summary] The vice president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Pak Song-chol, accompanied by his Tanzanian counterpart, arrived in Zanzibar today for a 1-day visit. He reportedly will visit a number of institutions and development projects on the island.

SOMALIA

DANAB REPORTS HEAVY FIGHTING AROUND JIJIGA

NC0808582Y Paris AFP in English 0854 GMT 8 Mar 78 NC

[Text] Mogadiscio, March 8 (AFP)--Fighting is continuing around the strategic town of Jijiga in Harar Province in Eastern Ethiopia, the Somali Liberation Forces bulletin DANAB said today.

[Ethiopia claimed on Sunday that Jijiga, which had been held by Somali liberation forces for 7 months, had been recaptured by Ethiopian forces.]

DANAB said fighting was raging between liberation forces and Soviet-Cuban airborne and mechanised units and that the enemy forces had received strong airborne reinforcements, including tanks. It added that the enemy forces were operating under air cover and that "our liberation forces are still resisting bravely".

62 CUBAN SOLDIERS REPORTED CAPTURED BY SOMALIA IN JIJIGA

NC0808342Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0742 GMT 8 Mar 78 NC

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 8 March--The Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-ITTIHAD today quotes an official Somali source as having stated that a preliminary estimate of the number of Cubans captured in the recent abortive offensive on the city of Jijiga is 62 officers and soldiers.

The source said that the attacking forces had also lost a large number of tanks. He lauded the sacrifices of the Somali revolutionaries. He said that seven skilled officers had tied explosives around their bodies, jumped into the first group of attacking tanks and destroyed themselves, the tanks and their occupants.

MORE CONFLICTING REPORTS ON STATUS OF JIJIGA

Embassy Claims Attack Repelled

NC0810182Y Paris AFP in English 1014 GMT 8 Mar 78 NC

[Text] Dar es Salaam, March 8 (AFP)--Western Somalia Liberation Forces in Ethiopia still hold the strategic town of Jijiga, a Somali Embassy spokesman said here today.

He said an attack led exclusively by Soviet and Cuban forces on the Ogaden town had been repelled and that the attackers had suffered heavy losses. He added that no Ethiopian forces had taken part in the attack.

Spokesman Admits Retreat

LD081206Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] A Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF] spokesman for the Jijiga region disclosed today that fierce fighting has been going on for the past 2 weeks between the mercenary troops and the WSLF in the towns of (Kochar), Jinasanay, Jijiga and (Lowanachay).

The fighting has caused the mass destruction of property and buildings and has disrupted the economy of the region.

Heavy missiles, tanks and fighter planes were used.

After the attack launched by the troops of the unholy alliance of Russia and Cuba, the freedom fighters decided to withdraw from these towns and continue the fight from the mountains and outlying countryside.

The Jijiga region spokesman says the question now is: How long will these mercenaries protect these towns and the Abyssinians? What will happen when the WSLF and the black colonialists are left to their own devices? The Abyssinians know the freedom fighters well.

MOGADISCIO SAYS USSR, U.S. PROMOTE ETHIOPIAN COLONIALISM

LD071555Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] An appeal by the Western Somali masses:

It is incumbent upon the civilized world today, in this closing period of the 20th century, to condemn a colonialism bent on depriving a whole nation of its rights to self-determination, and those seeking to colonize others with the support of big powers. The struggling people of Western Somalia, who have risen up to retrieve its land and sovereignty, have lived within its own confines for 10 centuries under its own independent administration whose seat was Harar, the famous historical city. This nation never lost its control over the city and has its own freedom, except after an unbalanced war of aggression was carried out by Menelik, who was aided by several European colonial nations at the time. This temporary loss of rule which brought about the domination of the Harar-administered Western Somalia by Menelik soldiers took place 90 years ago in 1887. This historical fact is known to all and anyone who is of mind to assure himself can refer to the existing historical documents.

Ever since the colonial occupation campaign on the land of Western Somalia and Abo started on their people having launched attacks against the foreign ambitions in order to restore their legal rights which was being robbed. [sentence as heard] Time and again the intensity of the struggles of the liberation fronts for their freedom was always increasing. At this stage of this people's intensifying freedom struggle, in which the liberation army have brought under their control the greater part of their lost territories and are on the verge of seizing the eternally famous city of Harar. [sentence as heard]

The movement reaffirms to the world's people their determination to continue their struggle in spite of the heavy odds the front has confronted with. The Somali people in Western Somalia appeal to the civilized human conscience and to all peace and freedom-loving nations of the world to stand by their side and support them in their struggle to get their legal rights of freedom, independence and self-determination.

In this difficult period contradictory events are developing and the liberation fronts see that the Russians have become [words indistinct] and even until the mid-1970's to be the champion of freedom and bastion of the oppressed of the world, today are denying that this just and clear cause in regard to the rights of the people of Western Somalia and Eritrea, giving support to the ruling Abyssinian clique chaired by Mengistu Haile Mariam and the stamping underfoot all the rights it had previously (?espoused). The situation worsened and went out of control when the Russians started pouring weapons into Abyssinia on an unprecedented scale in order to stifle the freedom of the people and erase all their rights to self-determination. Russia seeks and is determined to revive Abyssinian colonialism on the land of the Western Somalis and Abo which their soil has been liberated with their blood and their lives in the face of the intransigence of Cuban mercenaries and other forces of Warsaw [Pact] to continue fighting against the front. [sentence as heard]

What is worse is that the USA, which appreciated the value of freedom and always pressed for human rights, should demand alongside the Russians that the forces of liberation fronts should withdraw from their motherland which they have liberated and extended weapons to the colonizer. How can a whole nation be asked to leave its land? And where should it be asked to go? Or is it the intention to create another Palestine?

This stand adopted by the Russians and the USA and the supply of weapons they are giving to the ruling junta in Ethiopia is but meant to annihilate the Western Somali people and the Eritrean people as well as the Abyssinian people that has lost its sovereignty. This is indeed an obvious denial of the freedom and independence of those nations and their right to self-determination. How can the world today in this last part of the 20th Century accept aggression against native rights to self-determination?

The people of Western Somalia severly condemn all those who stand by the Abyssinian clique, morally and materially, to annihilate the people of Western Somalia, Abo and Eritrea. The people of Western Somalia shall not retreat under any circumstances from the land they have liberated alone by itself [as heard] and the fronts are determined to drive the enemy from the rest of their territory in the teeth of opposition from its aggressors and allies. The liberation fronts of Western Somalia and Abo appeal to international public opinion that no security, no peace can be established at all in the Continent of Africa unless the peoples of Western Somalia, Eritrea and Abo are allowed to have their freedom and independence.

The fronts call on conscience of the world to help in stopping the blood that is being shed by bringing to an end foreign intervention aimed at abolishing self-determination. The liberation movements of Western Somalia in the [word indistinct] that it should regain its right and confidence in the principle of self-determination shall not be swerved from their right path leading to the liberation of their land and its defense however many of the machinations and however strong the power of the enemy might be against their rights. This will never slacken the determination and will-power of the fronts, and however prolonged the struggle might be, the fronts shall not stop until final victory is achieved. And that is the end of our commentary.

SIAD BARRE PLEDGES CONTINUED AID FOR WSLF

LD071825Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] It is unfortunate that the superpowers, which are supposed to be responsible for securing world peace, have participated in a joint effort to destroy the Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF], which is fighting for its legitimate rights and self-determination. Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP] and president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR], said this today during a ceremony at the new Mogadiscio stadium. He said the SDR will never abandon its cause and will continue to give moral and material support to the Somali freedom fighters.

Siad Barre revealed that the freedom fighters have crushed the troops of the Addis Ababa regime in their battle, but [words indistinct] foreign nations are fighting the freedom fighters. Challe Siad Barre also made it known that the foreign nations who are fighting on behalf of the Addis Ababa regime are using aircraft, tanks, heavy artillery and sophisticated missiles. But despite this, he said, the freedom fighters of the WSLF will continue their struggle until they liberate the rest of their country, regardless of who confronts them. This is because they are fighting for their own land and people.

The ceremony was held to mark Women's Day and the implementation of Mother-Tongue Day. It was attended by SRSP leaders, government officials and many people.

HUSSEIN CULMIE AFRAH COMMENTS ON SOVIET THREAT TO RED SEA

LD031140Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 0430 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Excerpt] Challe Maj Gen Hussein Culmie Afrah, vice president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] and assistant to the president on presidential affairs, met artists yesterday afternoon at the National Theater from Waberi Horseed, Hegan, Halgan, on Kot and Ifdin. Speaking on this occasion, Challe Culmie Afrah talked about the current conflict in the Horn of Africa. He said that the legitimate struggle of the liberation fronts of Western Somalia, Abo, Eritrea and the Afars, for independence from Abyssinian colonialism has raised to a high level the military involvement of the allied forces of Cuba, the Soviet Union and their followers. The vice president said that the Soviet Union and members of its pact in the Horn of Africa seek forcibly to occupy strategic places in the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean in order to satisfy their own strategic interests.

Challe Culmie said that the conflict in the Horn of Africa now concerned the African Continent in general and that the OAU had great responsibility for its solution because, he said, Africa was now free and its problems could be solved by ourselves.

Challe Culmie talked to the artists about defense organization and preparations and said that the Somali people as a whole were now ready to face up to the war of aggression that the allied forces of the Soviet Union, Cuba, the Abyssinians and their stooges were aiming to launch against the SDR.

DEMONSTRATORS ASK TO BE SENT TO BATTLEFIELD

LD061902Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] Thousands of people, including members of the armed forces, students, workers, youths, women and people from the general public living in the District of Baladwein, staged a large open-air demonstration in Baladwein. They passed through the streets of the town chanting slogans such as: We should be taken immediately to the battlefields so that we can resist the illegal aggression by the unholy forces against the Somali people.

Challe Abdur Ahman Adid Ahmed, chairman of the party Bureau for Education and Research, who took part in the demonstration, told the demonstrators that the Somali people do not want to attack any people but are obliged to defend their sovereignty and existence. For this reason, he said, it is indispensable for the Somali people to confront anything likely to harm the sovereignty of the Somali people.

Challe Abdurahman Adid also said that whatever wrong people planned against the liberation fronts they will never succeed in their endeavors and that the Somali people have many friends who support them in their just struggle. He called on the demonstrators to move quickly to counter the socialism of the alliance of Russians, Cubans and their followers.

UGANDA

AMIN RELEASES NINE RECENTLY DETAINED KENYANS

LD071135Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Excerpts] President Amin has ordered the release of nine Kenyan nationals who were arrested at (Kabonge) in north Karamoja on 27th February this year, after entering Uganda illegally and carrying firearms and ammunition.

Dr Amin said he has decided to release these Kenyans because of the good relations prevailing between him and his brother, President Mzee Kenyatta, and between their governments. He said [word indistinct] were that these people entered illegally even without the knowledge of the Kenyan Government. Therefore, he said, the Kenyan Government cannot be held responsible for the misconduct of such people, whose aim is simply to cause misunderstanding between our sister-states.

Life President Amin thanked the members of the armed forces, who kept the Kenyans well. He directed the minister of defense to hand the Kenyans over to the minister of foreign affairs, who will [word indistinct] with his Kenyan counterpart from their hand-over to the Kenyan Government.

CAMEROON

IVORY COAST'S HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY ENDS OFFICIAL VISIT

PA041425Y Paris AFP in English 1235 GMT 4 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Yaounde, Mar 4 (AFP)--The round of talks, official and informal, between visiting Ivory Coast President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, who today wound up a 9-day visit to the Cameroons, and President Ahmadou Ahidjo, have shown how close their views are on major current problems, [in] particular on foreign intervention in Africa, observers said here today.

Both have reflected the same extensive concern over the "upsurge of conflicts, tension points, and interference" on the continent whose primary aims should be totally devoted to Africa's liberation and development.

And once again, observers said, the two men had expressed the prime importance they attach to the need for differences between African countries to be solved by Africans themselves, and by peaceful means.

The two leaders have also come out firmly with "total support" for the Zimbabwe (Rhodesian) and Namibian (Southwest African) liberation movements. They also condemned, unreservedly, apartheid. And while President Houphouet-Boigny told a news conference last night that he did not want to reject dialogue with South Africa, he was nonetheless inclined to help "his brothers," whose impatience he could understand, if they wanted to have recourse to arms inside their country.

President Houphouet-Boigny's visit has also given a boost to bilateral cooperation. A treaty of friendship and cooperation has been signed by the two leaders and they have each decided to open embassies in the two capitals, a move stressing their determination to strengthen bilateral links, observers said.

Both leaders gave their support to developing regional cooperation in Africa, and strengthen regional and sub-regional organisations to which they belong. They believe this approach to be the "only realistic way to attain African unity," they said.

Observers said the two men had shown a clear preference for backing regional organisations having an economic on trade character, rather than drawing up political accords, seeing this as a more concrete way of bringing about African unity.

President Houphouet-Boigny, giving his conclusions over his visit, said the differences between him and President Ahidjo "are nothing compared to everything that unites us."

CHAD

ALGERIAN ENVOY CONFERS WITH MALLOUM TO DISCUSS COOPERATION

LD031021Y Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 24-25 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Text] An Algerian delegation led by Mr Mohamed Yala, minister of commerce and special envoy of President Boumediene, was received not long ago in Ndjamena by Gen Felix Malloum, head of State of Chad.

During the audience granted to the Algerian delegation, all current African and international problems were broached as well as questions concerned with cooperation between Chad and Algeria.

Concerning the situation in the African Continent, identical opinions emerged regarding the need to provide African solutions to all the differences which have arisen and could arise among the African countries, the OAU being the most suitable body to deal with all these disputes without foreign interference.

As far as bilateral relations are concerned, it was decided to send a delegation of Chadian experts to Algeria to examine with their Algerian counterparts the ways and means of strengthening and consolidating commercial exchanges and collaboration in general between Chad and Algeria.

CONGO

ARMY POLITICAL CHIEF RETURNS FROM VISIT TO LIBYA

LD071544Y Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1215 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] Comrade Nicolas Okongo, a member of the party Central Committee and head of the army's political department, who was accompanied by Comrade Dieudonne Itoua, a member of the Congolese Labor Party Central Committee and head of the Foreign Affairs Department, this morning returned from the Libyan capital, Tripoli, where he carried out a party mission.

ZAIRE

MOBUTU SAYS DETAINEES PLANNED TERRORISM, NOT COUP

LD071300Y Brussels Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Text] There has been a wave of arrests in Zaire, and 67 officers and 24 civilians are in jail, accused of plotting against the regime of President Mobutu. The trial of this group of almost 100 accused will open tomorrow. Journalists accredited to Kinshasa will be able to be present at the trial together with the dean of the diplomatic corps. Thirteen accused have already nominated 13 Kinshasa lawyers to defend them. The lawyers have been given access to their clients' dossiers.

President Mobutu has said that this trial, which will open at the national defense headquarters, will take place in the most democratic way possible and that the rights of the accused will be respected. According to General Mobutu, the plotters had intended to commit a series of attacks during the night of 18-19 February against the hydroelectric complex at Inga, the Matadi-Kinshasa pipeline, big stores, cinemas and the French and Moroccan embassies. It was not a coup d'etat attempt, according to General Mobutu, but a campaign of terrorist acts.

The Zairian Army has liberated a Belgian priest of the Society of Jesus, Father Jullien Close, who had been detained by rebels, the official Zairian agency, AZAP, reports. Fourteen rebels have been condemned to death by court-martial and executed.

MALI

MORE ARRESTS MADE ON 'CONSPIRACY' CHARGES

PA071446Y Paris AFP in English 1406 GMT 7 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Bamako, Mali, March 7 (AFP)--Mali's ruling military committee has arrested more armed forces and police officers, and civilians, in addition to the three former junta members arrested last week and stripped of their commissions, committee Permanent Secretary Lieutenant-Colonel Filifina Sissoko said late yesterday.

He added that inquiries and arrests are continuing both in the capital here and throughout the country, and that traders were also implicated in the conspiracy.

Colonel Sissoko said the conspiracy had been uncovered by "non-official intelligence services," the leader of the official service being involved in the plot himself.

He added that mopping-up the conspirators would affect all sectors of the administration and country's life, at all levels.

Meanwhile, armed forces detachments today were guarding the security services headquarters, whose former leader Lieutenant-Colonel Tiecoro Bagayoko was today reduced to the rank of second-class private.

Similar reductions to the ranks were announced for former Defence Minister Kissima Doukara and former interior minister lieutenant-colonel and were arrested with the security services chief last week for "high treason." [sentence as received]

Inquiries are now proceeding into the three departments formerly run by the disgraced ministers and the security chief, on the orders of head of state, Moussa Traore.

Meanwhile, demonstrators shouting support for Col Traore marched through the streets of the capital today, a week after the original arrests.

NIGERIA

LAGOS COMMENTS ON VISIT BY FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER

LD071100Y Lagos International Service in English 0730 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] The visit of the French foreign minister to Nigeria is the subject of today's commentary by (Odinachi Okeneri) of our current affairs unit.

Rather than excite anybody, his trip raises many interesting questions. To start with, it is being made at a time when the federal government has demonstrated to the world that Africa is the centerpiece of its foreign policy. But here is an area in which Nigeria and France are known to have differed considerably.

This is why the visit of the French minister is significant, especially as he was quoted as saying that his government would want to listen to Nigeria's (?views), apparently in (?recognition) of the eminent position in Africa and international affairs.

All the same, it may amount to wishful thinking to believe that France will overnight review its policy toward black Africa to fall in line with our political aspirations. This is in spite of the recent, seeming changes in her dealings with apartheid South Africa. If anything, France took the position after she felt satisfied that the factories she set up in South Africa in 1972 for the manufacture of Mirage jet bombers and sophisticated arsenals have made the racists self-sufficient. Otherwise, why did it take France so many years to respond to international criticism?

One is persuaded to agree with Mr de Guiringaud's suggestion that France has genuine intentions to broaden her circles of friends to include countries with whom she has no traditional relations in Africa. The least one can say is that France's changing attitude toward Nigeria in particular has economic rather than a deep-seated political overtones. There are about 60 major French businesses in Nigeria. In addition to this, France consumes a sizable volume of our crude oil. Statistics also show that France has more business connections with Nigeria than with all the French-speaking West Africa states and South Africa put together. It is against this background that the federal government's policy to deal ruthlessly with entrepreneurs operating in this country which have business links with South Africa appears most disturbing to France.

The visiting French diplomat has even made it clear that his country continues to have trade links with the apartheid regime of John Vorster. This is why the sincerity of France to accept the reality of Nigeria's commitment toward the elimination of racism in the continent remains to be tested. For one thing, Mr de Guiringaud's visit has afforded our government the opportunity of [word indistinct] our displeasure with the dubious role France has played on the continent. France not only did all that was possible to prevent the French-speaking West African states from joining their English-speaking counterparts in forming an economic union, but is now believed to be doing everything to wreck ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] . The irony of the situation is that France is one of the architects of the European Economic Community and so is in a position to understand the role that economic cooperation can play in the life of a people, bound by fate to live in a region of the globe.

If the mission of Mr de Guiringaud was originally conceived and designed to identify his government with the aspirations and political goals of the federal government, such change of mind must be backed by concrete action. What Nigeria wants at this time is not mere friendly gestures in the name of goodwill but action and sincere cooperation.

ANGOLA

CETEKA REPORTS COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON WFTU VISIT

LD031046Y Prague CTK in English 0800 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Prague, March 3 CETEKA--Delegations of the National Federation of Angolan Workers [WFTU] saluted the courageous struggle of the peoples of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe, a joint WFTU-UNTA communique issued in Luanda said.

The communique was issued at the close of the visit to Luanda of a WFTU delegation headed by its general secretary, Pierre Gensous, from February 27 to March 1. It was made public by the Prague-based WFTY Secretariat yesterday.

The two delegations decided to extend their action against the policy of apartheid in South Africa, the illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa and the racist, exploiting minority regime in Zimbabwe.

They condemned the Anglo-American plan for a settlement (?in Rhodesia) which does not take into consideration the Zimbabwe people's profound desire for independence as expressed by the Patriotic Front. They also condemned the so-called internal solution.

Both delegations noted an [word indistinct], that Smith proposes to carry out with the African puppets to impose a neo-colonial regime on the people of Zimbabwe, the communique said.

The delegations noted an increase in the attacks against trade union liberties in a number of African countries. They particularly noted the recent tragic events in Tunisia, where over a hundred people were killed and most of the trade union leaders were imprisoned. They demanded the immediate release of those trade union leaders and respect for trade union rights and liberties.

The communique said that the two delegations once more declared their support for the liberation struggle of the Palestinian people.

The national federation of Angolan workers confirmed that a top level delegation would be attending the 9th World Trade Union Congress scheduled in Prague for this April.

BOTSWANA

DEFENSE CHIEF DENIES TRAINING RHODESIAN GUERRILLAS

LD061653Y Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 1 Mar 78 p 7 LD

[Anders Johansson interview with Botswana Army Deputy Commander in Chief Brig Gen Ian Khama: "We Have No Guerrilla Bases"--date and place not specified]

[Text] "Rhodesia claims that the Zimbabwe guerrillas have bases here in Botswana, and Justice Minister Kruger in Pretoria asserts that we are training South Africans for urban guerrilla warfare. [paragraph continues]

we have invited them to come here and carry out an inspection to show us these alleged bases and training camps. They have not bothered with our invitation."

Brig Gen Ian Khama, aged 24 and deputy commander in chief of the Botswana Defense Force (BDF), insists that there is nothing to hide from the white rulers in Rhodesia and South Africa. They are welcome to pay a study visit.

Even if it wanted, the Botswana Government considers it would be synonymous with suicide to put its territory, in the name of African solidarity, at the disposal of the nationalist guerrillas in Zimbabwe, South Africa and Namibia.

"We cannot afford attacks like those which Rhodesia is carrying out against Mozambique," Ian Khama said.

But, even if they wanted, the Botswana authorities cannot always have total control of this widespread and sparsely populated country--larger than France but with only 700,000 inhabitants. Here there are certainly no guerrilla bases or training camps, but it is virtually impossible to prevent infiltration by black resistance men into the surrounding states under white minority regimes.

Eldest Son

Guerrillas who escape from pursuing Rhodesian troops are taken care of, given food and lodging in Botswana but are quickly transported on to Zambia.

"An escaping patriot is first disarmed, is granted political asylum--he is, indeed, escaping for political reasons--and is then treated as a civilian, together with other Zimbabwe refugees.

"In any case, the escaping guerrillas are very few in comparison with the thousands of refugees we are receiving from Rhodesia," Ian Khama explained.

Ian Khama is the eldest son of Botswana President Sir Seretse Khama. This family tie has hardly been an obstacle to Brig Gen Ian Khama in his rapid military career, but the fact is that the 24-year-old son of the head of state is one of the few Batswana to receive officer taining (under British rule in 1885-1965 the then Bechuanaland was grossly neglected--the British intended to hand over the country at some time to South Africa).

Secret

Botswana's tiny army, the BDF, was established hardly 1 year ago after repeated Rhodesian violations of the 800 km border. The civilian population in the border areas demanded better protection.

Its exact numbers are a military secret, but the force is estimated to total approximately 1,000 and, according to present plans, is to be doubled within the next 5 years. Until last spring Botswana's border defense was a duty for a paramilitary unit within the country's police force.

RHODESIA

HIGH COMMAND CONFIRMS ITS TROOPS HAVE INVADED ZAMBIA

BK0716447 Hong Kong AFP in English 1641 GMT 7 Mar 78 BK

[Text] Salisbury, March 7 (AFP)--Rhodesia today confirmed its troops have invaded Zambia. The attack was aimed at a guerrilla base where 38 insurgents and one Rhodesian soldier were killed, the Rhodesian high command said.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON ATTACK ON ZAMBIAN BASE

LD071832Y Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD/CA

[Text] A combined operations headquarters communique just received reports that terrorists who crossed into Rhodesia and committed atrocities on the civilian population were captured while returning. They indicated that there was a large terrorist base situated on the north bank of the Zambezi River some 16 kms west of Kanyemba. This information was later confirmed by security force surveillance from the Rhodesian bank of the Zambezi.

Additionally, terrorists in that area were observed rehearsing boat-crossing operations. One group of terrorists left the Zambian bank by boat and moved towards Rhodesia. Once in Rhodesian waters, they were descried by the Rhodesian security forces. It became apparent that this group was the forerunner of a large incursion which was in the process of being mounted. Consequently, a self-defense operation was launched against the terrorist base.

Security forces are satisfied that there were no Zambian security forces or civilians in the terrorist base at the time of the attack. At least 38 terrorists are known to have been killed and a large quantity of sophisticated Russian arms and ammunition was captured and destroyed. Security forces suffered one soldier killed. His next of kin have not yet been informed. Rhodesian security forces have all returned to Rhodesian soil.

SALISBURY CRITICIZES OWEN'S POSITION ON RUSSIANS, CUBANS

LD081102Y Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1610 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Excerpt] At long last the United States appears to be awakening to the errors of its ways, the mistake this time being its soft peddling on Africa, or more specifically a continuing American effort to woo back Cuba on to friendly terms.

Two days ago the British Foreign Secretary Dr Owen spoke of a British tightrope walk made particularly difficult by Russian and Cuban involvement in Africa. He said the possibility of Russian-based military intervention dictates the British Government's attitude towards the agreement signed in Salisbury last Friday. The British Government, he added, had to maintain a delicate balance in its position vis-a-vis the externally based black nationalists and the black leaders in Rhodesia who signed the agreement.

Surely here there is too much talk of delicate balances. Dr Owen talks like a man who is either afraid of the Russians and Cubans, or who concedes that they have some rightful part to play in Africa. What he should be doing is telling them to mind their own business, and specifically to keep their noses out of Rhodesia.

FOREIGN MINISTRY EXPECTS OPPOSITION FROM THIRD WORLD

LD081120Y Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD/CA

[Text] The Rhodesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs said today that the anti-Rhodesian settlement stance adopted by many emerging countries in the Unites Nations is entirely as expected. The ministry told the RBC that it expected a great deal of anti-Rhodesian sentiment to be expressed by radical Third World states. However, it is the standards [as heard] of the moderate and anticommunist nations that will really count in the long term.

SALISBURY REPORTS KAUNDA, NYERERE SPLIT OVER SETTLEMENT

LD081124Y Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD/CA

[Text] The vice president of the UANC [United African National Council], Mr Chikerema, says there is a tremendous split between President Kaunda of Zambia and the Tanzanian leader President Nyerere on the question of the internal settlement. Mr Chikerema told IANA [Inter-African News Agency] that the five so-called frontline states are divided on the issue, with President Machel of Mozambique siding with Mr Nyerere. He said that Mr Kaunda may well fall from power because of his stand against the accord, and claimed that most Zambian members of parliament now say that enough is enough.

SOUTH AFRICA

12 DIE, 100 INJURED IN WINDHOEK RIOTS

NC081016Y Paris AFP in English 1006 GMT 8 Mar 78 NC

[Text] Windhoek, March 8 (AFP)--Twelve people have now died and about 100 been injured in riots between rival political factions in the Namibian capital here.

South African police have sent reinforcements to the area where the riots have been spread over the last eight days. And despite a slight drop in tension in the black township of Katatura where the major clashes have taken place, two more deaths were reported by police yesterday.

The fighting has occured between the Ovambo workers, backers of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) and Herero tribe supporters of Chief Clemens Kapuno, leader of the Pretoria-supported Turnhalle Democratic Alliance.

SWAPO Information Secretary M.K. Tlhabanello accused Chief Kapuno's backers and police of having provoked the clashes to "discredit SWAPO and justify the presence of South African security forces in Namibia."

He said that on the last day of the riots lorries had brought Herero tribesmen from the rural zones into Windhoek, armed with clubs and machetes.

"The police did not stop them, but several of our followers have been arrested for possessing 'dangerous weapons,'" he said.

Mr Tlhabanello denied that SWAPO had instructed its backers to become involved in the clashes. "Our followers have been provoked," he said, adding that SWAPO, however, backed the strike called on Tuesday by Katatura African workers "to protest against insecurity."

Both the authorities and Chief Kapuno have accused SWAPO of being behind the clashes, among the most murderous known in Katatura for several years.

The strike movement largely collapsed early today after a meeting late yesterday at which South African-Administrator General Judge Marthinus Steyn told 5,000 people he would eliminate the violence, whoever was responsible. The judge has maintained a neutral position in the confrontations.

The strikers said they would strike again if four claims were not met: no reprisals for striking, the departure of rural Hereros back to the country, police neutrality, and the freeing of those people arrested during the riots.

Meanwhile West German Ambassador to South Africa H. Eick is expected here tomorrow for talks with local politicians as part of the Western initiative to find an internationally acceptable solution for future Namibian independence.

Steyn Warns Against Violence

LD171400Y Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Text] The administrator-general of South-West Africa, Mr Justice M.P. Steyn, says political murder and violence in the territory will be stamped out without regard for the people or political parties responsible for such deeds. In a statement issued in Windhoek in the wake of violent faction fighting in nearby Katutura Township, he said South-West African independence would be achieved at the polls and not through violence.

Mr Justice Steyn said South-West Africa was passing through a vital and decisive stage in its political development. Violence, intimidation and destruction of property, as had been seen in the past week's clashes between Vambos and hereros in Katutura, were a deadly poison. If allowed to continue or spread they would destroy the whole territory and its people.

ZAMBIAN UNITS DOWN SIX RHODESIAN AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT

PA071633Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1622 GMT 7 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Lusaka, Zambia, 7 Mar (AFP)--Zambian anti-aircraft units downed six Rhodesian Air Force aircraft some 250 km southeast of this capital, an official communique announced here today.

PRIME MINISTER SCORES RHODESIAN ATTACK, INTERNAL AGREEMENT

LD071838Y Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD/CA

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Mr Mainza Chona today condemned the uprovoked attack on Zambia by the forces of rebel leader Ian Smith. Mr Chona said this at Mtendere when he was handing over the keys of a free school to the Lusaka City Council on behalf of the Rotary Club. He said that the crime of Zambia is that she did not support the agreement recently concluded by Smith and three African leaders of Zimbabwe. Mr Chona [words indistinct] recalled that when Zambia's independence was being negotiated it was not only UNIP that participated, but all other political parties in Zambia participated in the negotiations. Unless one wants trouble one cannot leave out a single political leader from the Rhodesian independence negotiations, especially if that leader has armed followers. Zambia was not alone in this stand [words indistinct].

Mr Chona added that it is a pity that the African leaders who signed the agreement have declared that they are prepared to die for that agreement. In fact, what they mean is that they are prepared to kill for their signature [as heard].

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